

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(518)237-8643

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD. _____
SERIES _____
NEG.NO. _____

YOUR NAME: Kathy Howe DATE: Sept. 1994

YOUR ADDRESS: 133 South Fitzhugh Street TELEPHONE: (716)546-7029
Rochester, NY 14608

ORGANIZATION (if any): The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc.

* * * * *

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S): Charles Wendt House
2. COUNTY: Monroe TOWN: Greece
3. STREET LOCATION: 1251 Maiden Lane
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public [] b. private [X]
5. PRESENT OWNER: Charles V. & Elizabeth B. Wendt ADDRESS: 627 Cabot Road
Rochester, NY 14626
6. USE: Original: residence/farm Present: residence
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes[X] No[]
Interior accessible: Explain private residence

DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard [X] b. stone [] c. brick [] d. board and batten []
e. cobblestone [] f. shingles [] g. stucco [] other: Asphalt roof
shingles. Pargeted foundation.
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: (if known) a. wood frame with interlocking joints []
b. wood frame with light members [X]
c. masonry load bearing walls []
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other _____
10. CONDITION: a. excellent [] b. good [] c. fair [X] d. deteriorated []
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site [X] b. moved [] if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known):
(see continuation sheet)

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

"This is a very simple little house, but, again, it's the real thing. Original details and materials. It's a 'green.' " P. Malo.

COLOR CODE

Green



14. THREATS TO BUILDING:
a. none known [X] b. zoning [] c. roads []
d. developers [] e. deterioration []
f. other: _____
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn [X] b. carriage house [] c. garage []
d. privy [] e. shed [X] f. greenhouse []
g. shop [] h. gardens []
i. landscape features: Stone retaining wall at front.
j. other: well pump; farm market building
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):
a. open land [X] b. woodland []
c. scattered buildings [X]
d. densely built-up [X](neighborhood) e. commercial []
f. industrial [] g. residential [X]
h. other: 390 expressway/overpass to the east.
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

(see continuation sheet)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

(see continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: c. 1889 (per owner)
ARCHITECT: not determined
BUILDER: not determined
20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

(see continuation sheet)

21. SOURCES:

(see continuation sheet)

22. THEME: Agricultural: Farmhouse and outbuildings.

11c.

Cinder block chimney added on east elevation.

Shed-roofed porch added at rear (south) elevation.

Modern picture window added on west elevation of rear wing.

17. The Wendt House is located on 17.4 acres on the south side of Maiden Lane just west of the I-390 Expressway in the south-central part of town. The house faces north and is situated on a small knoll with a mature deciduous tree and a historic well pump to the east. A stone retaining wall of coursed ashlar is located along the front of the property line. A non-contributing, gambrel-roofed, concrete block and frame barn (1954) and a contributing gable-roofed frame shed (1945) are located southeast of the house. Fields are located to the south. Part of the acreage fronts the east side of Fetzner Road and includes a non-contributing frame farm market building at 660 Fetzner Road. The property is situated in a residential neighborhood of early- to late-twentieth-century homes. The I-390 overpass is to the east. A bike trail is across the street to the northeast. Greece Olympia Senior High School is beyond the expressway to the east.

18. One and one-half story, cross-gabled, frame vernacular farmhouse with clapboard siding. A one-story, hipped roof porch, with turned Eastlake style posts and decorative brackets, projects from the front, north, elevation of the front-gabled block. The front entrance in the eastern bay features a wood door with glazing in the upper half. The windows on both the first and second floors are two-over-two, double-hung wood sash. There is a narrow frieze beneath the eaves.

A hooded side entrance with brackets is located at the east elevation. The door at this entrance is paneled with glazing in the upper half. The windows on either side of this entrance are one-over-one, double-hung wood sash. A cinder block chimney has been added at the east elevation. The west elevation of the main block features one-over-one, double-hung wood windows on the first floor and at the shed-roofed wall dormer on the second floor.

18. continued

Projecting from the rear of the main block is a slightly lower, T-shaped, cross-gabled frame wing. A recessed porch on the northeast side of this wing has a chamfered post, brackets, and a simple balustrade with square-profile balusters. The entrance off the porch on the east wall has a wood paneled door with glazing in the upper part. A one-story frame shed with vertical tongue and groove wood siding is located at the southeast corner of the rear wing. A shed-roofed porch addition projects from the back of the house.

The gambrel-roofed barn (1954) is constructed of concrete block on the first floor with frame walls above. The walls at the second story are clad with novelty siding. A large overhead garage door is located on the first floor of the north elevation. The second floor has one-over-one, double-hung wood windows on either side of a central sliding track loft door. The front-gabled, frame shed (1945) to the east of the barn has novelty siding.

20. Built ca. 1889, this house is architecturally significant in the town of Greece as an intact example of a late-nineteenth-century vernacular farmhouse. It is also historically significant for its association with the Wendts who were an important farming family in this section of town and have continuously owned the property for over 85 years.

The simple, front-gabled vernacular farmhouse with cross-gabled rear wing retains a high degree of integrity of design, materials, and craftsmanship. Of special note is the front porch with its Eastlake-inspired turned posts and decorative brackets.

According to Charles Victor Wendt, the current owner, the gambrel-roofed barn was built in 1954 and used for the storage of tools and equipment and has a carrot washer. The gable-roofed shed was built in 1945 and was also used for the storage of farm equipment.

The house was built for Leo Ter Haar who acquired the property in 1889, with a barn already standing on the lot. The building first appears on the 1902 county map with 57.86 acres, southeast of Maiden Lane and Fetzner Road, owned by Leo Ter Haar. The

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20. continued

house has been in the Wendt family since 1908 when Charles Wendt purchased the approximately 54-acre property from Ter Haar. The 1924 county map shows Charles G. Wendt as the owner of the 54-acre farm along with the house and three outbuildings. Charles and his wife raised three sons, Victor, Walter and Irwin, and three daughters, Clara, Frances and Emma, in this house. Their daughter Frances recalled taking the farm wagon with her father to Wagg's Corners at Lake Avenue and Ridge Road to sell vegetables. Her father also sold cabbages, corn, and other produce at the public market.

Charles' son, Victor Wendt, and his wife Laura built a home on the farm near the corner of Fetzner Road and Maiden Lane. They had two children Charles Victor, born 1935, and Anna Mae, born 1941. Victor Wendt worked as a mechanic at Eastman Kodak for 20 years along with running the farm. He took over the farm after his father died in 1934 and became the owner of the property in 1939. Among other produce, Victor grew carrots on the farm and sold them to local canneries. He built a root cellar that held 90 tons of carrots. Victor Wendt's farm produce was so popular locally that he opened a stand at 660 Fetzner Road and added bread, milk and other staples for the convenience of the neighbors.

Today the property is owned by Victor's son, Charles Victor Wendt, and his wife, Elizabeth. Charles V. continued to run the produce stand for several years and raised corn and snap beans and acquired additional fresh produce from the public market for his customers.

The 54-acre farm extended west to Fetzner Road and east to where the I-390 Expressway is now located. There once was a gable-roofed barn on the property (see attached sketch by William Aeberli). 17.4 acres of the original 54 acres remain today.

21.

Assessment Records. Assessment Office, Town of Greece, NY.

Interview with Charles Victor Wendt, July 1994.

Map of Monroe County, N.Y. Philadelphia. PA: G.M. Hopkins, 1924.

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21. continued

Plat Book of Monroe County, New York. Philadelphia, PA: J.M.
Lathrop & Co., 1902.

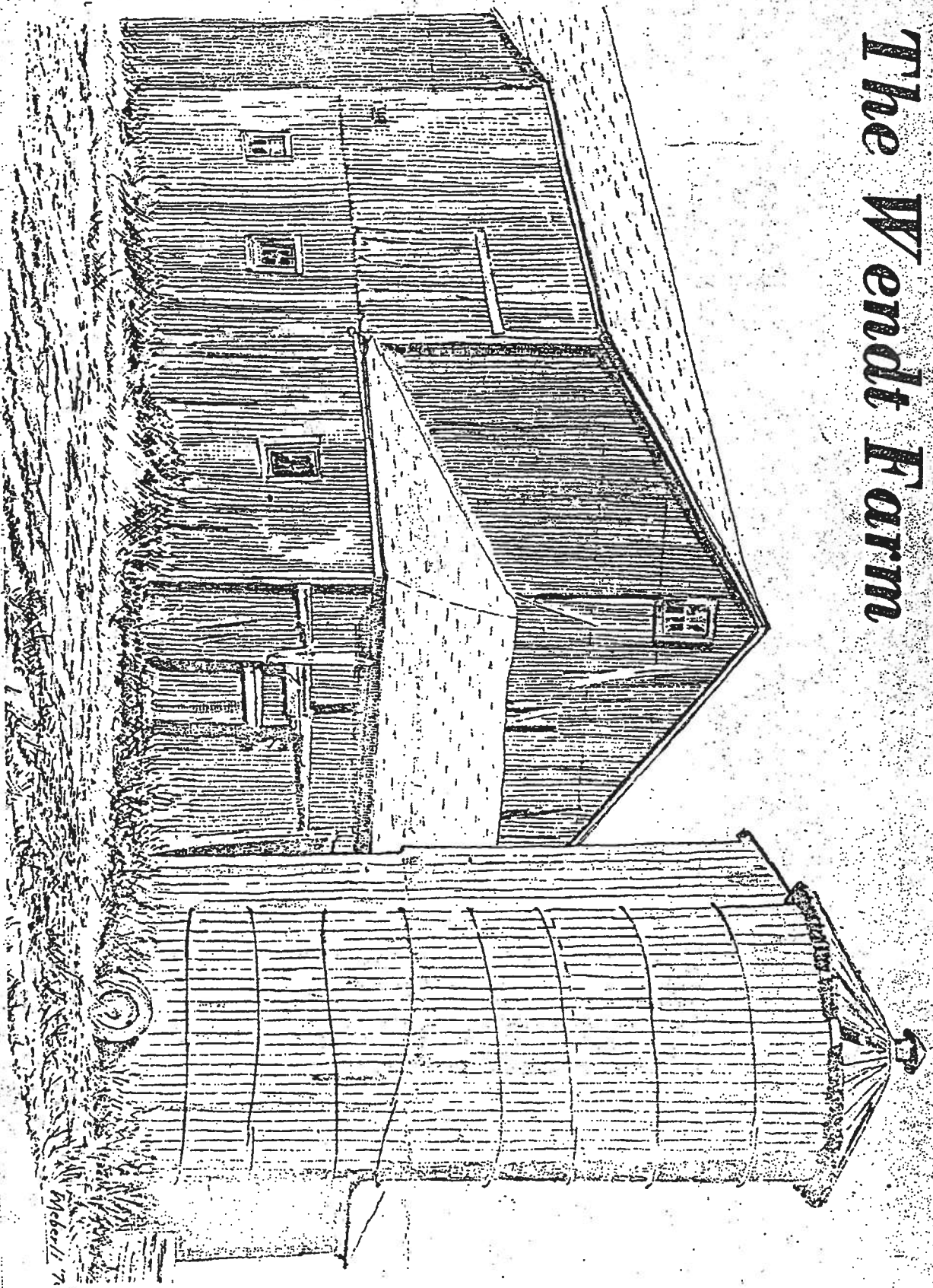
Rochester Suburban Directory for the Year 1930. Rochester, NY:
Sampson & Murdock Co., 1930.

Rochester Suburban Directory for the Year 1938. Rochester, NY:
Sampson & Murdock Co., 1937.

Wagner's Complete Survey of Monroe County, New York.
Cincinnati, Ohio: A.C. Wagner Co., 1928.

"The Wendt Farm, Our Vanishing Landmarks." *Greece Post*, 18 June
1970, pp. 1 and 11.

The Wendt Farm



Drawing by William Aeberli of former barn and silo at the Wendt Farm, 1251 Maiden Lane. (From "The Wendt Farm, Our Vanishing Landmarks." *Greece Post*, 18 June 1970, pp. 1 and 11.)



